

CLAIMS

1. In a WDM communication system carrying a plurality of WDM channels,
apparatus for amplifying a plurality of optical signals, said apparatus comprising:

5 a first group of optical amplifiers, each of said first group of amplifiers amplifying
a selected optical signal being carried by one of a first group of adjacent WDM channels;
a second group of amplifiers, each of said second group of amplifiers amplifying
a selected optical signal being carried by one of a second group of adjacent WDM
channels;

10 a first optical energy source providing pump energy to amplifiers of said first
group of optical amplifiers; and

a second optical energy source providing pump energy to amplifiers of said
second group of optical amplifiers.

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